

The Hong Kong Daily Press

No. 5212

號二十二年五月

日八月十六年戊申

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, 31ST JULY, 1874.

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月

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港

PRICE \$2 PER MONTH.

Arrivals.

July 30, MAIWA, Brit. str., 1,775, P.S. Ton, in Shanghai 26th July, General—P. & C. S. N. Co.
 July 30, CAROLINA, German bark, 360, H. E. Meyer, Cebu 16th July, Ballast—Wm. PUSTAU & Co.
 July 30, OLYMPIA, German steamer, 777, P. Lauten, Shanghai 26th July, General—STEINER & Co.
 July 30, YANGTSE, British steamer, 782, Corner, Shanghai July 26th, General—
 STEINER & Co.
 July 30, PATROCLUS, British steamer, 1,607, Dronning Liverpool 13th June, and Singapore 24th July, General—BUTTERFIELD & SWINE.
 July 30, BOMBAY, British steamer, 740, C. F. Davies, Yokohama 22nd July, General—P. & S. N. Co.
 July 30, KERMAL, French br., 255, Rouille, Newquay 25th June, Beans—CARTAIN.

Departures.

July 30, FORMOSA, str., for Amoy.
 July 30, SINDH, str., for Aberdeen Dock.
 July 30, LEE-TUEN, str., for Canton.
 July 30, H.I.M.S. VASARI, for a cruise.
 July 30, LUKE, for Chooch.
 July 30, FORTUNE, for Chooch.
 July 30, DEBORAH LOUISA, for Whampoa.
 July 30, CHINA, str., for Shanghai.
 July 30, PALMA, for Whampoa.
 July 30, GEORGE NOBLE, for Foochow.

Clearances.

At the HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
 July 30th.
 Lee-kuang, str., for Canton.
 Fray Bentos, str., for Callao.
 Olympia, str., for Canton.

Passengers.

ARRIVED
 Per Malwa, str., from Shanghai:—
 For Hongkong—Messrs. M. Morris and Cheung Fat, and 52 Chinese, for Venice.—Mr. J. M. Ringer, for Southampton.—Mr. B. Bostock and Capt. Montgomery.—Per Zarzuela, str., from Shanghai.—Mr. P. P. Parker, 1 European deck and 47 Chinese.
 Per Patroclus, str., from Liverpool, &c.—For Hongkong—30 Chinese deck. For Shanghai—Mr. Swallow.
 Per Resolute, str., from Yokohama.—Mr. Poots and 12 Chinese deck.

Reports.

The P. & O. steamship *Maharajah* reports left Shanghai on 26th July at 10 a.m., and Whampoa at 9 p.m., and fine and cloudy weather with heavy rain.

The German bark *Carolina* reports left Cebu on 16th July, and had very squally weather all the voyage, with variable winds from the S.S.N.

The British steamship *Yarmouth* reports left Shanghai on 26th July, and had early part of passage fresh monsoon; the latter grew and variable winds, passed the steamer *Yarmouth*, bound South, off Gutzalaff.

The British steamship *Patroclus* reports left Liverpool on 13th June, and Singapore 24th July. Had light winds 7th instant, from the N.W., with heavy clouds and rain. At 4.20 p.m. on the 29th instant, George Weppner, A.B., fell overboard and was drowned.

The P. & O. steamship *Bombay* left Yokohama on 22nd July at daylight, with light winds and fine weather, and arrived at 30.00. During the day the wind increased, and the barometer began to fall. At 10 p.m. barometer got down to 29.93 and still falling. During the night the wind increased and the weather became threatening. At 8 p.m. on the 23rd the barometer had fallen to 29.69, and the gale had increased to a typhoon, which compelled the heaving of the ship to on the port tack under storm gale between the islands of Mikado and Japan. Wind blew at 100 miles from the 23rd instant. Barometer went down to 29.49, to 29.42 at midnight, when it was still blowing tremendous gales with a fearful sea running. After midnight of the 23rd, the wind abated a little, the gales becoming lighter and the barometer gradually rising, but a fearful sea was still running, at noon of the 24th instant, wind and waves having gone down considerably, and the Barometer had risen to full speed on our passage. At 7 p.m. we found the wind and sea rapidly increasing, we rounded the ship to on the port tack again, and remained here to until 6 a.m. of the 25th instant, when that typhoon being virtually over, subsisted again. Half-hour after starting there came on a very thick rainy weather, and we had to lie to again until 10 a.m., when we made a final start, and continued our passage to the 27th instant, before staying. The Bar. then stood at 29.98. During the typhoon we stowed in two boats and starboard bulwarks. We got through Van Dieman's Straits on 26th instant, the wind being Southerly, and light, on the 27th instant the wind was still southerly and light with fine weather. The Bar. steady at 29.97-28.18, off Tasmania with light southerly wind and fine. At 2.30 a.m. on the 28th instant, the wind again to 29.85. Early on the morning of the 29th the Bar. commenced to rise again, and we had light variable winds to arrival. The *Yarmouth* left Yokohama at daylight the day before the *Bombay*.

Vessels Exported at Hongkong.

(Correspondence Data.)

Vessels Name ... *Date*
 DOOGAN, ... Cardiff, Jan. 15
 ALQUADRO, ... New York, Feb. 10
 FRANCES, ... Shields, Feb. 19
 ARADA, ... London, March 3
 J. CHRISTIAN, ... Penarth, March 21
 DAN, ... Liverpool, March 22
 CO. ... Cardiff, April 7
 CLOOPA, ... Penarth, April 8
 MORNING LIGHT, ... Penarth, April 16
 NORTH AMERICAN, Liverpool, April 20
 MELBREK, ... London, April 26
 SIR HARRY FOXON, London, May 10
 G. & J. MATHER, ... Cardiff, May 12
 FRED. & ROBERT, ... Cardiff, May 20
 EGYPTIAN, ... Cardiff, June 2
 HOPEWELL, ... London, June 4
 GLENGLE (e), ... London, June 10
 GLENDAS (e), ... Glasgow, June 10
 KINLAWNS CASTLE, London, June 13
 CARAVAN, ... Cuthbert, June 13
 G. & LOMBE (e), London, June 17

AMERICAN TRADES TODAY.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

12, Queen's Road, Canton, &c.

NOTICE.

COALS taken on STORAGE at Wanchai.

Apply to S. E. BURROWS & SONS,

1st floor, 233, Hongkong, 10th June, 1874.

NOTICE.

STEAMERS leaving this port requiring

COAL, can obtain it from the Under-

agent, W. G. HALE & CO.,

15th Street, Canton, 18th September, 1874.

Banks.

THE QUEENSLAND NATIONAL BANK,
 Incorporated under the Companies Act, 1863.
 CAPITAL, £500,000.

HEAD OFFICE, BRISBANE.

DIRECTORS:

HON. F. H. BAILEY, M.L.C., Chairman.

HON. A. BUCHANAN, M.L.C.

HON. THOS. MCWRAIGHT, M.L.A.

ADM. W. G. HALE, &c.

FREDERICK GREGORY DARVALL, Esq.

GENERAL MANAGER:

E. R. DRURY.

BLANCHES:

BERNIEBIGH TOWERS,

GOVERNMENT,

QUEENSLAND,

MARYBOROUGH,

MULCHESTER,

ROCKHAMPTON.

RUMA STANTHORPE,

TOWNSVILLE,

WILLISTON:

THE UNION BANK OF LONDON,

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA,

AGENTS IN NEW SOUTH WALES:

THE CITY BANK,

THE MERCANTILE BANK OF SYDNEY,

AGENTS IN VICTORIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA,

THE NATIONAL BANK OF AUSTRALIA,

AGENTS IN NEW ZEALAND:

THE BANK OF NEW ZEALAND,

AGENTS IN NEW YORK:

MESSRS. LAIDLAW & CO.

AGENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO:

THE BANK OF CALIFORNIA,

AGENTS IN INDIA AND THE EAST:

THE ASIATIC BANK CORPORATION,

61, 119, Hongkong, 31st July, 1874.

THE ANGLO-CALIFORNIAN BANK,

(LIMITED),

412, CALA St., San Francisco, CALIFORNIA.

LONDON OFFICE: ... Angel Court,

New York Agents: J. & W. SELBYMAN & CO., 21,

Broad Street.

AUTHORIZED

CAPITAL STOCK, \$6,000,000.

WILL receive Deposits, open Accounts,

buy and sell Exchange, and

Borrow Money, and issue Letters of Credit available throughout the world.

FRED. F. LOWE, Manager.

1887.

COMPTOIR D'ESCOMpte DE PARIS.

INCORPORATED by National Deoices of

7th and 8th March, 1863, and by Imperial

Decrees of 25th July, 1864, and 31st December,

1865.

RECOGNISED by the INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION OF 30th APRIL, 1863.

France, 2 Shillings.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$9,000,000. £500,000

RESERVE FUND, \$10,000,000. £600,000

HEAD OFFICE, 14, Rue Bréa, Paris, 1.

LONDON AGENT, 144, Leadenhall Street,

ARMERIES:—At Nanjing, Lyons, Macassar,

Barbadoes, Alexandria, Bombay, Calcutta, Hongkong, Shanghai, Saigon, Saint Denis (Ho de la Reunion), and Yokohama.

LONDON BANKERS—UNION BANK OF LONDON.

HONGKONG AGENCY.

Interest Allowed

On current deposit accounts at the rate of

2% per annum on the monthly minimum

balances.

On Fixed Deposits:

For 3 months 2% per annum.

" " 3 " "

" " 12 " "

A. PHILIPPE,

Acting Manager,

Office in Hongkong, 1st Building, Queen's Road,

378, Hongkong, 22nd July, 1874.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL, \$9,000,000 of Dollars

RESERVE FUND, \$1,000,000 of Dollars

HEAD OFFICE, 14, Rue Bréa, Paris, 1.

EUROPEAN AGENTS:

FRANCIS, P. & CO., 14, Rue Bréa, Paris, 1.

AMERICAN AGENTS:

ROBERT S. WALKER & CO., 1st fl., 41, Hongkong, 6th January, 1874.

HONGKONG BANKERS—LONDON & COMPANY.

INTEREST ALLOWED

On Current Deposit Accounts at the rates of

1% per annum on the monthly balance.

On Fixed Deposits:

For 3 months 2% per annum.

" " 6 " "

" " 12 " "

Local Bills Discounted

Grant—granted on approved Securities, and

every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.

Deposits—on London, and the chief commercial ports of Europe, from Amsterdam, Antwerp, and Java, to Paris, and

JAMES GREGG, Chief Manager,

Office of the Corporation,

No. 1, Queen's Road East,

Hongkong, 16th February, 1874.

TO BE DISPOSED OF

A. S. GUY, ... Compt

THE CHRONICLE & DIRECTORY
FOR 1874.

NOW READY.

THIS Work, now in the TWELFTH year of its existence, is ready for delivery.

It has been compiled and printed at the DAILY PRESS Office, as usual, from the best and most authentic sources, and no pains have been spared to make the work complete in all respects.

In addition to the usual varied and luminous information, the value of the CHRONICLE AND DIRECTORY FOR 1874 has been further augmented by a

CHROMO-LITHOGRAPH.

OF A
PLAN OF THE CITY OF CANTON,
THE FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS OF
SHANGHAI;A Chromo-Lithograph Plate of the
NEW CODE OF SIGNALS IN USE
AT THE PEAK;also of
THE VARIOUS HOUSE FLAG
(Designed expressly for this Work)
MAES OF HONGKONG, JAPAN,
and the
THE COAST OF CHINAALSO, THE
NEW CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE—HONGKONG;
besides other local information and statistics corrected to date of publication, tending to make this work in every way suitable for Public, Merematic, and General Offices.

The Directory is published in Two Forms, Octavo at \$5; or with the Lists of Residents, Port Directories, Maps, &c., at \$3.

Orders for Copies may be sent to the Daily Press Office, or to the following Agents—

Macau.....Messrs. J. DA SILVA & Co.
Shantou.....Quinton & Company
Amoy.....Wilson, Nichols & Co.
Fuzhou.....Wilson, Nichols & Co.
Ningpo.....Hale & Holt
Changsha.....Kingsbury & Co.
Kwangtung.....F. Godfrey & Co.
Beijing.....Vernon Reigier, Gurney & Co.
".....God Save the Queen."

The Board of H. M. Sea. Regiment will perform this evening at 8 o'clock—Parliamentary, "Mars-Saint-Sauveur," Author Selection, "Glorious," "Overture," "Overture, Grand March," "Aix-Chambon," "Meyerbeer," "Grand Selection," "La Flambante," "Bellini," "Vivian Leigh," "Grieg," &c.

LATE TELEGRAMS.

The Stock of Malwa Opium in Bombay, on the 1st instant, was 1,000 cwt.

Who advises from London report the arrival of the steamer Nisan from China.

The steamer Chital from this port arrived at Shanghai on the 20th instant.

ROBINSON & JACK AND OTHERS.—This case was remitted to the Attorney-General by Mr. Stephens and Holmes, who for the defendant (Mr. Bramston) submitted that the Attorney-General (Mr. Kingsmill) had not paid his bill of costs, which was for the defendant (Mr. Bramston) submitted that the Attorney-General could not be compelled to pay damages if he could not be compelled to admit damages. But the first question was, was Mr. Jack responsible for that report, or for its opponents? In calculating this they must first consider the duties which he was bound to perform by law or contract bound to perform by law or contract, and then, if he did not do so, what damage was done to the shareholders.

The Attorney-General submitted that he was bound to do his duty to the shareholders, and that his duty was to see that the directors or their officers undertook to discharge what was due to him, and if he could not be compelled to do so, he might be entitled to damages. But the first question was, was Mr. Jack responsible for that report, or for its opponents?

The P. & Q. steamer Mirrapore, from Southampson, June 18th, arrived at Bombay, and left for port on the 27th inst. She will bring on the English market from home to 10th inst., after the next English mail steamer, which is expected to be day-to-day or tomorrow morning.

Vong-a-sam, the hawk, one of the two defendants charged with piracy at the Magistrate's in the watch case, is, we learn, the father of a tuk-tuk who set the "Leverpool Arms" on fire some time ago, and who gave up his son on consideration of it, was arrested by the police.

We learn that the steamer Vancouver, concerning which some apprehension has been felt, did not leave Yokohama till the 21st instant, consequently she is not so very early over the water, and the delay which had up to the present occurred might be accounted for by some accident or some detention. She was however seen by the Romby, which arrived yesterday, and which encountered a heavy typhoon on the 24th.

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LONDON, 25th July, 1874.

FLIGHTS IN AMERICA.

Over 200 persons have perished by the floods in Pennsylvania.

ROSS OF ANOTHER TEA SHIP.

28th morning.—The steamship Gordon Castle is reported to be on shore at Lisbon and badly damaged. The main part and the cargo are likely to be saved.

29th afternoon.—The Gordon Castle has sunk in six fathoms and is a total wreck. Crew and passengers saved.

THE COLLISION OF THE "HANKOW" OUTWARD BOUND, WITH THE "MILLENAE."

The Hankow, outward bound to China, collided with the Millesne; the latter sank; 15 persons were drowned. The Hankow is considerably damaged, and has returned to discharge cargo. Hongkong, 29th July, 1874.

Mr. C. D. Ross, Japan Gazetteer.

MESSRS. J. DE LOYALA & CO., Singapore Times Office.

London.....Mr. F. ATYWOOD, Clement's Lane.

".....Geo. Street, 30, Cornhill.

Hongkong.....Messrs. BAKER, BAKER & CO., San Francisco.....Mr. L. E. FISHER, 21, Merchant's Exchange.

New York.....Messrs. S. M. PETTINGILL & CO., 37, Park Row.

LONDON, 26th July.

BEFORE C. MAY, Esq.

INSOLVENT CHINESE SERVANTS.

Chung-a-lung, house boy to Mr. Thomas Hart, was charged by his master with being insolent, assaulting and hitting in his wife's face, for which offence he was fined \$10, & 14 days imprisonment.

DISGRACED CONDUCT.

Wong-a-hui, and three servants unemployed, was charged to Mr. W. Seth, Secretary to the 7th instant, of conduct in a disorderly manner, and making use of abusive language to some chair coolies, a German man next door, and to himself.

The complainant detailed the language used by the defendant, and added she was the worse for liquor.

Defendant, who had nothing to say for himself, said that having been laid before a similar officer she would now have no option of a fine, but he sent to jail for seven days.

SELLING SAMPHEN WITHOUT A LICENSE.

Lee-a-look, the mistress of the house No. 130, Holly-road, was charged by the Inspector of Brothels, with selling samphen without a license, and having been proved that she sold to the plaintiff \$100, and \$2 each for a distance in the house, and sending them to become intoxicated. Defendant was fined \$50.

PERIODIC PAYMENT.

Owaa-kit, was charged on remand by the Hon. C. Smith, with piracy under Section XVII of Ordinance 7 of 1872, by giving false testimony respecting the death of his wife, whom he had married at Liutak, with fighting and creating a disturbance in her house in Hollywood Road.

After the evidence, the first four defendants were fined \$2 each, and the last three defendants \$1 each.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE: That is not in the fact of it.

The Attorney-General: That is the effect of it.

The Chief Justice: It is not every mistake, but it was material. That is the point.

The Attorney-General said it was. But then the Court would see that that was not quite the case.

When they interpreted the strict and scrupulous accuracy which was required with reference to their strict matter in the prosecution, then they would find that the accuracy required went far beyond the question of materiality. When the different authorities of the article had done their best, the golden legacy of strict and scrupulous accuracy they claimed was the point by giving of the prosecution as a statement put out to invite the public to take share on the faith of what was contained in it. But the report of shareholders was a very different thing. It was a document giving information of the state of the Company. It was a statement of affairs to be subsequently submitted to the shareholders, when it would be tested, the books were always open to the inspection, and the managers were ready to give information upon my question. And it was not till the shareholders had either accepted them without inquiry, or passed them without inquiry, that they became a completed document. In the case they were now engaged, in the shareholder who complained of a particular item in the report, was not a particular item in that report, but it was present for every reason that it was discussed and decided, and the defendants admitted to it, and the criminal session of the Supreme Court.

BEFORE JAMES RUTLEDGE, Esq.

The case in which a blind man, and a woman named Sam-poo, were charged under Ordinance 7 of 1872, with unlawfully detaining a girl at West Point, was adjourned to the 27th instant, to be continued to the afternoon, when a considerable amount of conflicting evidence, the case was remanded till to-morrow, and the defendants admitted to it in the sum of \$100 each, and complaint bound over to appear to give evidence.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE: Mr. Jack, and the other defendants, will be here to-morrow.

The money changer Lum-a-hui, and the hawk woman—a sandal—charged with piracy under Section 7 of 1872, were brought up. Mr. Everett, appointed by Mr. Lees, to watch the case, and Mr. Holmes to watch the case on behalf of the plaintiff, and the defendant bound over to appear to give evidence.

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THE TYPHOON AT FORMOSA.

N. C. Daily News, July 24th.
H. M. S. *Lapwing*, Captain, arrived here at 7.30 last night direct from Keelung, on her way to Tsinan, and brought on Captain Tong, his officers, engineers and crew from the late steamer *Lapwing*. By this opportunity we are in possession, from our correspondent, of particulars regarding the typhoon of the 17th inst., which proved so disastrous to the party from H. M. S. *Ardent*, with it appears were to the *Lapwing*.

Reading, 22nd July, 1874.

Very little remained to be done on board the *Lapwing* after the services of the steamer's crew were dispensed with; but for fully a week previous to the day which proved fatal to so many of them, Lieut. Gardner, Mr. Jones, chief engineer, and twelve men and officers of the crew, had been absent from their posts, having been sent to Keeling harbour as soon as the news were received on board the wreck, and the order in which they were to be relieved was suspended by distance from them. For several days previously the position of the wreck was the same as when the typhoon came on; and the work of demolition, having become difficult, her condition was not altered much during that time.

The hull was so denuded of everything that it is difficult to imagine how any could have lived on it even in the weather; full of water and mud, and the deck covered with broken iron and engine-room slags, the rail and stanchions, accommodation ladder, all butches, midship and quarter-deck houses removed or in course of removal; all boats, life-boats, ropes, rigging, sails, spars, chains and anchors cast on shore to be used, with portions of the engines, steam-winch and windlass, and everything above water that could be torn away, "for the benefit of the survivors" — the latter, however, evidently were left to provide for their shelter or safety of the wreckers.

It does seem strange that the desire to secure these odds and ends should have been carried so far, at such a great risk to those engaged in the work; and it is highly probable that had the advice been given or assistance rendered to the poor fellows whose overzeal in the matter of salvaging their lives, no disaster would have happened.

Mason Bay, where the *Lapwing* was beached, is about ten miles from Keelung by water, having Maou Peninsula on the South and Double Rock on the North side, and from the latter a reef crosses the mouth of the bay about two-thirds of the way. The chief exposure is north-easternly, and along the shore for several miles there courses behind it. The hull of the vessel lay head on to sea, with the stern about one hundred yards from what in fine weather is the shore, but as it is only a narrow sandbank, the rollers during the typhoon must have swept clear over it and into the low land beyond. To the south of the ship's position only did the high land dip down to the sea, without being interrupted by any other land, and therefore it will be seen that a man had but a poor chance, in a dark night and heavy seas, of saving his life, even if he succeeded in gaining the beach directly opposite the ship.

When it commenced to blow on the morning of the 17th the ship worked a good deal, and as the wind increased during the afternoon it must have been something dreadful on board, held, sprawling the decks, and causing the boiler to bump about, out of its place. Towards night masts became much worse, and the Chinese servants begged to be sent on shore, as they said it was going to blow a typhoon. The others seem only to have had a slight suspicion that this might be the case, but one of the men-of-war's men and a Malay, who had been with them in shore, told us quite to this time been once in danger, and we with much difficulty induced either by two seamen who swam off to her, but afterwards, dragging her moorings, she drove into the breakers, and was swamped. A boat from the shore was at last induced to go alongside, and the boys and two Europeans were landed by it in safety, and so far unscathed.

Those on board, now apparently recognising the danger of their situation, "a fit had been constructed during the day, and by means of it all would doubtless have been enabled to reach the shore, but on being put over the side it broke adrift, and a sailor who jumped overboard, after an unsuccessful effort to bring it back to the boat, was lost.

Gentlemen and families desirous of patronising him, are requested to apply at his shop above, where a list of prices of articles will be furnished, which will be supplied at the same rate all the year round.

H. KEE.
174 Hongkong, 11th May, 1874.DISSOLVED PERUVIAN GUANO
PREPARED BY
OHLDORFF & CO.LONDON, ANTWERP, HAMBURG, AND
EMDEN-ON-REINE.GUARANTEED TO CONTAIN
Nitrates equal to 10% of Nitro-glycerine
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Extracts.

THE SICK MAN AND THE BIRDS.

NOTES.

Spring! it is now Spring,
I am too sick to work;
How hateful heart to me,
O Spring, with all thy birds!

MUSICA.

I sing for joy to see again
The merry birds along the lane,
The hill had grown green,
And 'twixt my love, upon the bough,
Hark, how they call to me now—
"Pip! pip!"

NOTES.

Ah! here's the sun,
Love is like light;
But, bird, thou restest long,

HUMOUR.

By shore and sea I came and ga,
To ask who not what, and lo!
On no man's care I sit;
But voice bid me rise once more,
To fit spin by sea and shore—
"Pip! pip!"

NOTES.

This is such bitter cup—
Only taste, not know;
But then, that strictest sp,
Why don't you card?

ALARMS.

A secret and gift me—
With song and wing that lifeth me—
A spirit for whose sake,
Striving again to reach me,
Still to the old, dark earth I fly—
"Wake! wake!"

NOTES.

My heart beat fast this night—
Trot, to the right, did all,
How hast thou heart to sing—
Thy tenor made music!

MUSIC.

Alas for me, a deafe,
All my sense waste of art—
What if not fate not fail,
To me, the shapes of ancient crime,
Nought though the windy way of time,
"Wall! wall!"

JET.

Jet, a sort of semi-jewellery in its usual applications, is one of these many substances which have a kind of mysterious brotherhood with coal. The beautiful pearl white paraffin for candles comes from coal; so does the benzoline, which we use in our handy little sponge lamps; so do the gorgeous magenta and carmine dyes and pigments; and so, some people think does jet. In this last-named instance, if coal is to be mentioned at all, we should rather say that jet is a kind of coal, not that it is produced from coal. Be this as it may, jet, a shining black substance, is found in seams dissociated from all other black minerals; not in the coal regions, but in other districts of England, notably near Whitby in Yorkshire. It occurs also in Spain, in Saxony, and in the amber district on the Prussian shores of the Baltic. Scientific men, in the language of mineralogy, say that jet is a variety of coal; that it occurs sometimes in elongated masses, sometimes in the form of branches, with a woody structure; that its fracture is conchoidal or shelly; its lustre brilliant and resinous, and its colour velvety black; that it is about twenty per cent heavier than water; that it burns with a greenish flame, emits a bluish-white odour while burning, and leaves a yellowish-ash. But the Whity folks can adduce many reasons for thinking that jet, in some of its forms at any rate, must have been at one time in a semi-liquid state, quite unlike coal derived from a ligneous origin.—*All the Year Round.*

THE ORDINATION SERMON.

Talking about no peculiarities, as far as I am aware, of High ecclesiastics; but I can help recording a singular instance of this infinity in the Bishop of —. He had a favorite sermon which he delivered in every part of his diocese; wherever he might have to preach. The subject was the little Israelitish maid who was carried away captive by Syrian marauders and became a servant in Nicanor's household. Some of the clergy used to maintain that it was the only sermon which the Bishop had—that he was in fact *homines cordicis*, but this I can positively contradict. At one of his ordinations a nephew of his wife came for Priest's Orders. It was the custom to appoint an inciting Priest to preach the Ordination Sermon: the appointment was regarded as a compliment to the appointee—being an acknowledgement of his having passed a superior examination when a candidate the year before for Deacon's orders. In this particular instance, the preceptor was indeed so complimented to his connection with the Bishop, and not to his own merits. Either from utter inability to compose an appropriate sermon, or from diffidence as to his sermon (if he did compose one) being equal to the occasion, at any rate, when the time came, no sermon was ready. In his distress he had recourse to his aunt, who like an indulgent aunt to her injudicious wife, relieved him from his difficulty by abstracting one of her husband's sermons. It happened to be the celebrated sermon on the Israelitish maid. Upon the text being given out, the Bishop was observed by his companion in pulpits (who sat next him) to pick up his ears, and to bend forward to listen with very unusual interest. At the end of the second or third sentence the Bishop exclaimed, in a voice loud enough to be heard by all within three yards of him. "Why, bless my soul, if the young blackguard has not gone and stolen my little maid!"—*Some Time in Ireland.*

SCOTTISH CHARACTERISTICS.

During yesterday at Maceay Nairn's, I heard three things curious. 1st. That an Edinburgh architect (Charles Tait) had given £190 for a little, for his own fiddling 2nd. That a congregation, neither Catholic nor Episcopalian but worshipping according to the forms of the Church of Scotland, had given £200 in an organ, to be set up and used in the Edinburgh meeting-house. The people who have sense and spirit to do this are a congregation of Independents who assemble near the College, and are presided over by Mr. Alexander, an able, excellent, and eloquent man—no inconsiderable fact in the progress of Scotland I find. That the Right Reverend Father in God, Dr. John Lee Principal of the College of Edinburgh, after succeeding in getting University Tests continued last session, is now objecting to let a marble statue of Burns be placed in our College Library because Burns had not a college education! Poor Shakespeare! The late Dr. Ritchie, afterwards Professor of Divinity in Edinburgh, spent nearly ten years in vain trying to get a good organ, that somebody had given him for the purpose, into his church in Glasgow. He first, after some resistance, put it up near the outer door, where it stood, dumb, for several years; then, on the protestation that it was spoiling, he, but with greater resistance got it advanced into a aisle. Where it remained, sown at, for a few years more. At last, the occasion of seeking some repair on the interior of the church was taken advantage of, and when the congregation re-assembled the new sounding box, on the inner wall, was fully visible. It was soon discovered to be the abominable thing. The reverend Presbytery rose. The doctor stood firm. The organ was taken down, and the instrument was marched out—*Lovely Cockburn Journal.*

THE "COMEDIANS OF THE PLAINS."

I could not take my eyes off the country, so strange and new it seemed; and suddenly my attention was attracted by a small brown post, about a foot high, planted in a sandy ring with a little round pit in the centre. I looked again, thinking it a strange place for a post, and then was another, and a dozen more. All at once one of the posts tumbled flat down and disappeared into the pit, displaying four short legs and a twinkling tail; and I saw it was a prairie dog (*Arctomys ludovicianus*). We were going through a dog-town, and they there, they sat by scores on their hind legs praying of the train and rubbing their noses with their fore-paws. They are the quaintest little animals; and make charming pets, as they are very easily tamed. They are very falsely called dogs, their only claim to such a name being their cry, a short bark; but are really more nearly allied to martens. They are usually supposed to live in the strange company of a small owl and a mink-skin; and I have heard people assert that in each hole these three most un congenial friends are found. This fact, however, I have been unable to prove satisfactorily, never having myself seen either snake or bird with the prairie dogs. Those who have had much experience in the West, tell me they have often seen the rattlesnake come out of holes in a dog-town, but have never seen any prairie dogs come out of the same holes. They are very difficult to catch, as their movements are very rapid. The best plan is to pour water down the hole, and so drown out the poor little beast, who comes up croaking and spluttering, and is then easily made prisoner. The peculiar shake they give their short tails as they bolt down the hole has given rise to a Western phrase, denoting great rapidity, "in the twirling of a tail."—*South by West*.

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